



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08059.0004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
DUIRS) Group Art Unit: 1616
Application No.: 09/622,094) Examiner: K. George
Filed: October 17, 2000)
For: Drug Delivery System)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Applicant submits this Reply in response to the Office Action mailed July 15, 2003. A request for a three-month extension of time is filed concurrently herewith, extending the time limit for filing the Reply to January 15, 2004.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing beginning on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 7.

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DEC 30 2003

**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/622,094

Filing Date: October 17, 2000

First Named Inventor: Graham Francois Duirs

Group Art Unit: 1616

Examiner: K. George

Attorney Docket Number: 08059.0004

Attorney Customer Number: 22,852

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114: Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, application must request non-entry of such amendment.

a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on _____.

ii. Other _____

b. Enclosed:

i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement
ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)	iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)

b. Other _____

3. Fees

a. The filing fee is calculated as follows:

i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$770.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)	iii. <input type="checkbox"/> _____
ii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petition for extension of time for (3 Months) \$950.00	iv. <input type="checkbox"/> _____
iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

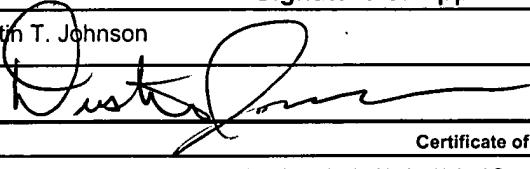
b. Checks in the amount of \$770.00 and \$950.00 are enclosed.

c. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required

Name: Dustin T. Johnson

Reg. No.: 47,684

Signature: Date: Dec. 30, 2003

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

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